



The Banister Bulletin



"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." – C.S. Lewis



Merrick Public Library

2 Lincoln Street
P.O. Box 528
Brookfield, MA 01506

CONTACT

Tel: 508-867-6339
Fax: 508-867-2981
brookfieldlibrary@gmail.com

HOURS

Tuesday & Thursday
1 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Wednesday & Friday
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sunday & Monday
Closed

FREE SERVICES

- Wi-Fi
- Computers
- Printing
- Copying
- Scanning
- Faxing
- Notary Public
- Home Delivery (for those Housebound)

Please be aware that the public computers and copier are shut down 15 minutes before closing time.

RESOURCES

Library Website:
merrickpubliclibrary.org
Library Catalog:
brookfield.cwmars.org
Library Facebook:
@Brookfield Merrick Public Library

ANOTHER GREAT YEAR IN THE BOOKS!

The Trustees and Library Staff would like to extend a sincere THANK YOU to all of our patrons for making 2025 another wonderful year here at the library! We're so grateful for your continued support. Cheers to 2026!



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The library will be CLOSED on Thursday, January 1st for New Year's Day. The library will also be CLOSED on Saturday, January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

MUSIC & MOVEMENT WITH JULIE Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m.

NEW! Miss Julie will now be at the library EVERY Wednesday! Hooray! Join Julie for songs kids know and love. Stretch, move, sing, and dance – all while developing early literacy skills through music and rhythm! This program is free and no registration is required. Recommended for children ages 0 – 5.

BANISTER BOOK GROUP

This book discussion group meets at the Library Annex at 18 Common St., on the last Wednesday of every month, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Copies of the current book are available for checkout at the library. New members always welcome!

January 28th: *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah This is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother-his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.

LOCAL HISTORY: "BROOKFIELD DAY"

The Brookfield Times - August 10, 1923 [continued]

Two bands are engaged for the day: Boys' Victory Band of Warren and Crosbie's Military Band of Worcester. The band concerts are to continue until ten at night at the midway on the common. For the celebration dance at night in the town hall the Royal Singing orchestra of Warren is to play. The Central Massachusetts Electric Co. is to furnish free all the current necessary to illuminate the midway which is to be in operation on the common throughout the day and evening. The big antique furniture display will be at the library and the rummage sale on the common in the midway. The sporting events will include a marathon race from West Brookfield to Brookfield; hose races; tug-of-war and probably track events. There will be folk dances by the children; a musical program and vaudeville numbers. It is planned to have the sheep roast near the midway with John Holt of Worcester directing the feature. The fires are to be started at midnight and everybody is invited to inspect the roasting of the sheep.

[To Be Continued...]

MERRICK PUBLIC LIBRARY: 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2025, as a patron of the Merrick Public Library, you **nailed it!** You saved almost **540 thousand** dollars by borrowing nearly **30 thousand** physical and digital titles instead of buying the material outright. If we stacked every book you borrowed from our library this year on top of each other, they'd reach over **half a mile** high, or in New England measurements, about **7 thousand** medium DUNKIN' coffee cups!

On average, our library's collection is **30,000%** larger thanks to being part of the CW MARS network, and you made the most of it in 2025! This year, you requested almost **3 thousand** items from across the state, which were delivered right to our library. If you were to drive to a library every time they shared an item, it would have taken you about **4 thousand** gallons of gas.

Thanks to our automatic renewal process, we saved you over **28 thousand** clicks on your phones and computers, putting those finger muscles to better use flipping and swiping through a whopping **6 million** pages of material. With more ways to use your library than ever before, we can't wait to see what you accomplish in 2026!



BROOKFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

held at the Brookfield Congregational Church

MONDAYS

- Fit 4 U from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

TUESDAYS

- Chair Yoga from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Coffee Hour from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

- Walking Group at 8:30 a.m.

THURSDAYS

- Fit 4 U from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Learn to Crochet at 10:30 a.m.

OTHER PROGRAMS

held at the Brookfield Congregational Church

Blood Pressure/Glucose Screening

2nd Tuesday of the Month
from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Foot Clinic

3rd & 4th Tuesday of the Month
from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$10 fee)

CURRENTLY FULL

Not Accepting New Clients

CONTACT: Email seniors@brookfieldma.us | **Phone** 508-867-2930 ext. 23 (Patty King)



FRIENDS OF BROOKFIELD

2025 Luminary Display

Thank you to each and every volunteer who helped to create this year's magical luminary display. It certainly takes a village and truly would not have been possible without you!

Special thanks to the Brookfield Highway Department for delivering the sand for the luminary bags. Also, a heartfelt thank you to the Predella family of Oakholm Farm for spending part of their Christmas Eve bringing joy to our community with tractor rides through the glowing luminaries.

Traditions like this are truly timeless and we are very grateful for your help to continue!

~ The Luminary Committee